Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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> DA 15-263 February 26, 2015

DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF YUKON TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. TO UNITED UTILITIES, INC.

STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

WC Docket No. 15-35

Comments Due: March 12, 2015 Reply Comments Due: March 19, 2015

On February 10, 2015, the shareholders of Yukon Telephone Company, Inc. (YukonTel) and United Utilities, Inc. (UUI) (together, the Applicants), filed an application pursuant to section 63.03 of the Commission's rules to transfer control of YukonTel to UUI.¹

YukonTel, an Alaska corporation, provides service as an incumbent local exchange carrier (LEC) in and around the communities of Ruby, Tanana, and Whittier, Alaska. YukonTel is a wholly-owned subsidiary of YukonTech, an Alaska holding company that is owned by Don Eller, Ralph Eller, and Paula Eller (all U.S. citizens). YukonTech also owns Supervision, a cable television and internet access service provider, and BBN, a wireless hi-speed Internet service provider.

UUI, an Alaska corporation, is a rate of return incumbent LEC serving 58 communities in Alaska with telephone service. UUI is a wholly-owned subsidiary of GCI Communications Corp. (GCICC), which is wholly-owned by GCI Holdings, Inc. (GCI Holdings). GCICC is a competitive LEC and interexchange carrier. GCI Holdings is wholly-owned by GCI, Inc., which, in turn, is wholly-owned by General Communication, Inc. (GCI). GCI, the ultimate parent of UUI and an Alaska corporation, is widely held and publicly traded. The following U.S. citizens hold a ten percent or greater interest in GCI: Ronald A. Duncan, President and CEO of GCI (11.5 percent voting interest, 5.1 percent equity interest) and John Stanton and Theresa Gillespie (directly own as tenants-in-common approximately 23.7 percent and 8.8 percent equity interest).

Pursuant to the terms of the proposed transaction, control of YunkonTel will transfer to UUI. YukonTel will continue to provide telecommunications services under its existing contracts and tariffs as a wholly-owned and distinct corporate entity from UUI. The proposed transaction is not expected to result in any loss or impairment of service to the YukonTel customers. Applicants state that customers

¹ 47 C.F.R § 63.03; *see* 47 U.S.C. § 214. Applicants are also filing applications for the transfer of certain wireless authorizations. Any action on this domestic section 214 application is without prejudice to Commission action on other related, pending applications. Applicants filed supplements to their application on February 24 and 25, 2015.

will continue to receive their existing services at the same rates, terms and conditions that they have prior to the transfer and any future changes in the rates, terms and conditions of service will be made consistent with Commission requirements. Post consummation, YukonTel customers will be enabled to also make international calls through their relationship with UUI.

Applicants assert that the proposed transaction is entitled to presumptive streamlined treatment under section 63.03(b)(2)(iii) of the Commission's rules and that a grant of the application will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity.²

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed For The Transfer Of Control Of Yukon Telephone Company, Inc. To United Utilities, Inc., WC Docket No. 15-35 (filed February 10, 2015).

GENERAL INFORMATION

The transfer of control identified herein has been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing as a streamlined application. The Commission reserves the right to return any transfer application if, upon further examination, it is determined to be defective and not in conformance with the Commission's rules and policies. Pursuant to section 63.03(a) of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.03(a), interested parties may file comments **on or before March 12, 2015**, and reply comments **on or before March 19, 2015**. Pursuant to section 63.52 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.52, commenters must serve a copy of comments on the Applicants no later than the above comment filing date. Unless otherwise notified by the Commission, the Applicants may transfer control on the 31st day after the date of this notice.

Pursuant to section 63.03 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.03, parties to this proceeding should file any documents in this proceeding using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS): http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/.

In addition, e-mail one copy of each pleading to each of the following:

- 1) Margoux Brown, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Margoux.brown@fcc.gov;
- 2) Dennis Johnson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, dennis.johnson@fcc.gov;
- 3) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, <u>jim.bird@fcc.gov</u>.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (tty).

The proceeding in this Notice shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's ex parte rules. Persons making ex parte presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making

² 47 C.F.R. 63.03(b)(2)(iii).

oral ex parte presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the ex parte presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter's written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during ex parte meetings are deemed to be written ex parte presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b), 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's ex parte rules.

For further information, please contact Margoux Brown at (202) 418-1584 or Dennis Johnson at (202) 418-0809.